ഗ്രാൻറ് സ്കൂളുകളുടെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി മയയോട്ടുകൂടെ ശരിയായി തുലോചിച്ച് വേണ്ടതുപോലെ പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ ഗവ ൺമെൻറിനെ ശക്തിയായി ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I withdraw with the consent of the House.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdraw.*)

Motion No. 9.

Secondary Education—Girls' Schools.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 19,540 for 'grants-in-aid' by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 9, Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan —I don't press the motion.

(*The motion was considered withdrawn.*)

Motion No. 9A.

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 92,673 for 'Secondary Education—Girls' Schools' by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 9A, Mrs. G. Pavitran.

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—My purpose in bringing this motion before the House is to call the attention of the Government to the desirability of appointing lady teachers for Primary Classes of Boys' Schoosl. The necessity for taking such a step will be clear if we examine the truth of two fundamental propositions on which I mean to base my arguments. The first has only to be mentioned to be accepted, for the truth of it is self-evident, that is, that the foundation of all sound education is laid in the primary classes, and that unless this foundation is well and truly laid, the superstructure will be shaky. Along with the advancement of education, we have also to see that the education we impart is given in the best possible way. The second is that the teaching of the boys in the primary classes is best done by women who are by nature eminently fitted to discharge this duty. It is an accepted fact in psychology that boys of this tender age, that is, between 5 and 8, require very delicate handling for the fullest development of their natural faculties. Moreover, a child of five has to lead an artificial and restrained life in the school, for he is removed suddenly from the pleasant atmosphere in the home to the strange surroundings in the school. This itself will tend to make the life of the boy unhappy and his growth becomes more or less stunted thereby. As a remedy for this evil, eminent educationists advocate the creation of a home atmosphere at school. I hope you will agree with me when I say that this atmosphere can best be created by women, who, with their natural mother's instinct, will be able to surround the child with gladness and love. Handicapped as men are by their temperament, they not only fail to create this happy atmosphere, but by this rough and ready methods of handling them may give rude shocks to this very sensitive mental life.

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If the Members are convinced of the truth of these two propositions, I have laid before them, namely, that the foundation of education is laid in the primary classes and that it is best laid by women, the necessity of the step that I advocate becomes clear.

Incidentally this measure would also lead to the solution of the problem of unemployment among educated women. In the wake of the advancement of Female Education follows the inevitable evil of unemployment also. I am fully aware that this measure, if carried out, will tend to increase unemployment among men. I have only one reason to urge in answer to this, namely, that their sphere of activity is unlimited while that of women is very much limited. I hope this motion will meet with the acceptance of this House.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.— Sir, I am very glad to say that Government fully endorse the sentiments given expression to by the Lady Member. We have been religiously following the policy advocated there. I don't think there is any province in India where there is such a large proportion of women who are employed as teachers in the Education Department. (*Hear hear.*) Our Girls' Schools are practically staffed by women except in a few cases where we don't get qualified women to teach certain special subjects. Even in Boys' Schools in the lower classes we are entertaining women as teachers. Of course, the process has got to be gradual because we cannot disband all the men teachers simply for the reason that there are enough women available. Every opportunity is taken, when there are vacancies in primary schools even for boys, to encourage women teachers, and gradully we can eliminate the male element. We have practically eliminated all men teachers from Girls' Schools. Twelve years ago 90 per cent of our teachers were men. Now it is less than 5 per cent in Girls' Schools. (*Hear, hear.*) There are very many of our Boys' Schools where the lower departments are staffed by women. We don't want to be hard upon our men teachers simply because there are qualified women available. We are just waiting for opportunities when the men could be provided otherwise or when they retire. Then their places can be taken up by women. We are, therefore, in entire agreement with the sentiments expressed by the Lady Member.

Mrs. G. Pavitran.—I withdraw my motion with the consent of the House.

(*The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.*)

The House rose for the day at 5—5. p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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